

## Sacramental Prep

We are a sacramental people, receiving the grace of God through water and oil, bread and wine, and in the laying on of hands. Preparation for the sacraments opens us to receive the grace of God freely given. **Those interested in preparing for a sacrament should contact the parish office (406) 721-2405.**

**Baptism of Infants:** Preparation for parents or soon-to-be parents takes place on an as-needed basis. Parents are invited into a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Baptism and the parish community in order to more fully celebrate their child's baptism and foster the child's growth as a Catholic Christian. **First Communion:** The Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith—for it is Christ Himself that we receive so that we become the Body of Christ. Baptized children in second grade or older participate in two six-week sessions to prepare for both Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **Confirmation:** Children in sixth grade or older who regularly attend Mass are invited to complete the sacraments of initiation through Confirmation. Preparation for this sacrament is a part of youth group. Confirmation takes place in the Easter season for the Missoula area parishes.

## Youth Group



Youth grades 6-12 gather September through May on two Wednesday evenings a month from 7:00 pm—8:00 pm for regular meetings which combine prayer, fun, and learning. Confirmation preparation is integrated into this time. We also gather for social events—going to Field of Screams, bowling, or playing Uno—for example. Youth are invited to participate in diocesan and other youth events, such as Junior High Rally, Junior High Retreat, CYC Convention, Ski Retreat and more.

The youth also engage in service—making a delicious pumpkin pancake breakfast in the fall and the Mardi Gras breakfast in the late winter. Other service projects come up throughout the year.



## Initiation of Adults

Are you (or someone you know) looking for a vibrant, strong and visionary community of faith? All are invited to come any day, any Sunday, and see how we have found Jesus Christ, the Risen One who lives among us.

The parish community is eager to share in your faith journey. Adults and children over the age of seven wishing to join the Catholic Church embark on a journey that is tailored to their needs. Those who are not yet baptized enter the Church through the Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults. Those who are baptized in another faith have a process for coming into full communion with the Catholic Church.

## Children's Faith Formation

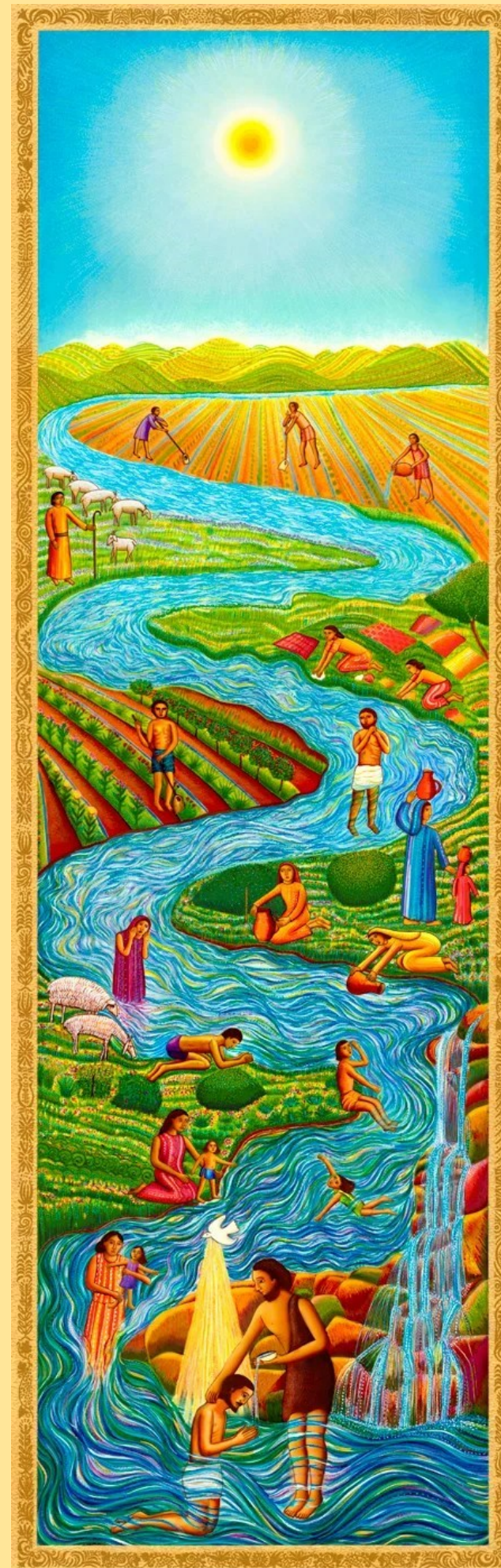
Children preschool through fifth grade are invited to attend faith formation during our monthly Whole Parish Faith Formation meetings. Children meet separately to learn about the same topic as the adults in an interactive and creative way. Regular attendance in these sessions benefits the child in forming lasting relationships with other children in the parish as they grow in faith together.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** takes place during the 10 am Mass at Blessed Trinity most Sundays during the school year for all children PK—5th grade.



### Mission Statement

Living and proclaiming the Gospel of Christ;  
Fulfilling the Mission of the Catholic Church  
in Southwest Missoula and Lolo



# Who Do You Say I Am?

## Whole Parish Faith Formation 2023–2024



Blessed Trinity  
Catholic Community  
+  
Spirit of Christ Mission

[www.blessedtrinitymissoula.org](http://www.blessedtrinitymissoula.org)





**Who do you say I am?** Just as Jesus asked the disciples two millennia ago to answer this question, so are we in our time and in our world. Do we see Jesus as a prophet? A wise teacher? Or do we answer with Peter, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God.”?

This year in faith formation we will explore the identity of Jesus—both as stated by Peter and as revealed in the Gospel of John. In discovering Christ, we discover our own identity—as Beloved Sons and Daughters of God; as Priest, Prophet, and King; as the Body of Christ.

United by baptism, we come to understand not only our relationship to God, but also our relationship to each other and the world around us. Through our baptism we are sent to proclaim the Good News in word and in deed.

**“Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.”** *The Joy of the Gospel, 7*

## Who Do You Say I Am?

### Oct. 1 **The Messiah, the Son of the Living God**

Casey Dunning, Director, Missoula Interfaith Collaborative

### Nov. 5 **The Way, the Truth and the Life**

Blessed Trinity Faith Formation Team

### Dec. 3 **The Bread of Life: Food for Mission**

Fr. Ed Hislop

### Jan. 14 **The Good Shepherd: Leadership**

Dr. Katherine Greiner Assoc. Professor—Theology, Carroll College

### Feb. 18 **The Sheepgate: Trespass and Forgiveness**

Blessed Trinity Faith Formation Team

### Mar. 10 **The Light of the World**

Matt Reichert, Catholic Leadership Consultant, Catholic Leadership Institute

### Apr. 14 **The Resurrection and the Life**

Blessed Trinity Faith Formation Team

### May 19 **The Vine: The Presence of Christ in the Gathered Assembly**

Sr. Judith Kubicki, Provincial Minister, Felician Sisters of Our Lady of Hope Province  
Assoc. Prof. Emerita, Fordham Univ.



As the Universal Phase takes place October 2023 in Rome, we continue the path of the Synod we began in the spring of 2022. We gather to build a communion that radiates, recognize our co-responsibility in mission, and ensure that all are able to participate in the life of the Church, the Body of Christ. Formed by prayer and liturgy, we do this by sharing our experience, listening to the experience of others, and doing the careful work of discernment. Led by the Spirit, we go out into the world, to do the work we are called to do.

[www.blessedtrinitymissoula.org](http://www.blessedtrinitymissoula.org)



## 6-Week Scripture Study

## The Gospel According to John, Part One

**Mondays 10:30 am or 7:00 pm**

**Starting September 18**

John's Gospel is unique—full of symbolic language and signs. Jesus teaches primarily through long discourses rather than through miracles and parables. He emphasizes relationship, between himself and the Father and our relationship with Him, rather than describing the Kingdom of God.

We primarily hear from the Gospel according to John during Lent and the Easter season. The synoptic Gospels each have a year long cycle, especially noticeable during ordinary time. The coming liturgical year, cycle B, contains a few extra Gospel readings from John, in part due to the brevity of Mark's Gospel compared to Matthew and Luke. This year is the perfect time to explore all John has to teach us.

This study will cover the first 10 chapters of this Gospel, including the magnificent prelude and much of Jesus' ministry. Later in the year, we will study the second part of the Gospel. Contact facilitator Rick Aldred for questions and Judy Cooney for registration and course materials.

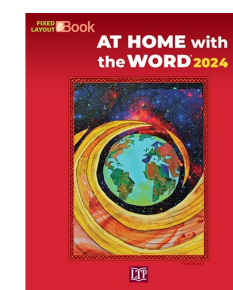
Word and art meet in the St. John's Bible. Several of these striking illuminations are displayed in our gathering space. During each monthly meeting we reflect on a passage from



scripture with an illumination from the St. John's Bible. The group will continue where we left off in May with the prophets. However, we will not be there long; the new year will bring in the New Testament. Seeing the Word will be meeting the third Thursday of the month beginning on Thursday, Oct. 19 at 1:00 pm. Participants use either *Word and Image* by Michael Patella or *The Art of the St. John's Bible* by Susan Sink. Contact facilitator Louise Yamasaki with questions or Judy Cooney for materials.

## Seeing the Word

**Third Thursday of the Month, 1:00 pm**  
**Starting Nov. 16th**



## Lectionary Scripture Study

**Thursdays, 11 am**

Through scripture we come to know Jesus and know the Father. Just as the apostles needed time, the Holy Spirit, and a community to grow in fullness of understanding so do we. Each week we reflect on the upcoming Sunday's readings and Gospel—following the lectionary used at Mass. Reading and reflecting on the Word of God is a great way to grow in faith. **Lectors are especially invited to participate.**

## Contact Information

The Gospel According to John  
Rick Aldred (406) 546-7380  
richardwaldred@gmail.com  
Seeing the Word  
Louise Yamasaki (406) 251-5363  
bzy@msn.com  
Lectionary Scripture Study and all  
Registration and Materials  
Judy Cooney (406) 721-2405  
judyc@blessedtrinitymissoula.org

[www.blessedtrinitymissoula.org](http://www.blessedtrinitymissoula.org)